REMARKS

Docket No.: A8319.0034/P034

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 10-13, and 15-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 6, 10-13, and 23 stand rejected. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claims 8, 15-22 and 24. By this Amendment, claims 1, 12, and 23 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made for cosmetic reasons to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action address objections in the specification. Applicants have amended the specification. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Office Action objects to the abstract of the disclosure. Applicants submit herewith a revised abstract. Therefore, Applicants request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10, 11-13, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 1, 12, and 23 in view of the Examiner's comments. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is

Application No. 10/780,751

Docket No.: A8319.0034/P034

respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: September 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

lan R. Blum

Registration No.: 42,336

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No. 33,082 DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP 1177 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 277-6500

Attorney for Applicants

IRB/mgs